Marlon Amprey Legislative District 40 Baltimore City

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Economic Matters Committee



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## THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

## Wednesday, March 4th, 2025

Testimony of Delegate Marlon Amprey in Support of House Bill 1416 State Department of Assessments and Taxation – Expedited Document Processing and Fees

Dear Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby, and Committee Members,

I am writing to express my support for House Bill 1416, which will improve Maryland's business climate by introducing expedited processing services for critical business filings through the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT). Maryland must continue to modernize and streamline processes that impact businesses, entrepreneurs, and economic development. HB1416 does just that by ensuring that businesses operating in our state have access to efficient document processing services that match the urgency of their needs.

Currently, businesses often experience delays in obtaining essential filings such as articles of incorporation, amendments, and mergers, which can significantly impact their ability to launch, grow, and make timely strategic decisions. By allowing SDAT to offer one-hour and 30-minute expedited processing services for a fee, this legislation creates an option for businesses that need immediate turnaround times without affecting the standard processing queue. The proposed fees—\$1,000 for one-hour processing and \$1,500 for 30-minute processing—ensure that the costs of these services are fully covered without burdening the state budget.

This bill is about more than just efficiency—it is about economic competitiveness. Maryland should be a place where businesses want to establish themselves and grow. Entrepreneurs and companies seeking to expand need confidence that their administrative processes will not slow them down. By offering expedited filing options, we align Maryland with best practices in other pro-business states and create a system that supports businesses in real time.

HB1416 benefits a wide range of business owners, from startups looking to incorporate quickly to large organizations navigating mergers and structural changes. Ensuring a fast, reliable processing option allows businesses to remain agile, make timely decisions, and contribute to Maryland's economy without unnecessary bureaucratic roadblocks.

For these reasons, I urge a favorable report on House Bill 1416

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